

42

A true  
**RELATION**  
Of a  
**DIVELISH DESIGN E.**  
By the  
**P A P I S T S.**

To blow up the City of OXFORD with  
Gunpowder, on *Thurday*, the thirteenth  
of JANVARY, 1641.

Which being suspected by the City, and diverse Houses searcht, at an Inne being the signe of the starre, neere *Carfax*, in an outhouse there was found 22  
Barrels of Gunpowder with two  
Barrels of shot and Bullets:

Also at another place at the same time compleat Armes  
for 150 men were taken by the Officers.

Whereunto is added very good newes from *Ireland*, Being a  
Relation of a Victorious battell won by the Protestants  
in *Ireland*, wherein 7000 of the Rebels were  
slaine in an enterprize to take  
DUBLIN.



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A true  
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Divelish Designe.

**T**is worth the observation of solid Iudgments, That there was never any thorow Reformation, without some strong opposition; I am sure, that of late there is none but may experimentally speake it, that seriously take notice of such weighty occasions, I shall onely instance it in the various distempers of our Kingdome, now at this present time when the hope and expectation of all well affected Christians, is to see it more glorious then for a long time together it hath formerly 'beene, by such a perfect purgation of all intruded corruptions, as doubtles will find good acceptance both with God and man.

So long as our good mother (the Church of *England*) with her faithfull Children the painfull and zealous Teachers therein lay groaning, nay almost gasping under the Tyrannicall feet of her proud Lordly Illegitimate sons, The Prelates; who ever prefer a paire of well-gilt tinable Organs before godly and pious Sermons, who (as in  
A 2                      diverse

divers bookes hath beene already sufficiently declared) had brought us to such a paffe, that we must either fly beyond Sea, branded with the then odious name of Puritan; or else (if we stayd here) shake hands with the Pope, and with the rest of his well wishers, and Ignorant profane and Careles persons) receive and imbrace his idolitrous Ceremonies.

This indeed was a very deplorable sad condition, I but then we had peace and quietresse. The Iesuits, Popish priests though there was never such swarms of Caterpillars were known to be in England at one time since *Q. Maries* daies, all as still as might be, their working braines were neuer troubled, to plot and invent such Diuelish machinations against God and his people as of late, they could joyn with us in our Church service, as it was then ordered: and sometimes to heare a time-serving Sermon preacht by a conformable Doctor, whose fingers itcht for Episcopall promotion; they knew they should heare nothing from such a man to hurt them. But now a Parliament being cald, good Ministers restored, Priests and Jesuits banisht, and the Prelates imprisoned, a happy beginning of Reformation in Church and Common-wealth; the Pope frets, his buls roare, Iesuits plot, the Divell helpes; but that Jehovah, our omnipotent God, who is present in all places, doth still discover, and to his endles glory prevent their treacherous designs against his Church and faithfull children, as is verified by the Prophet. *The wickedly seeth the just and seeketh occasion to slay him, but the Lord will not leave him in his hand, nor condemne him when he is iudged.*

This hellish crew, having bin divers times frustrated of their wicked conspiracies in and about the City of London, not daring any longer to make their abode so neere the renowned Authors of their unresistable raine in this Kingdome, thought to try one project more, a little remote, in a part, that if all hit, might prove a great hazard to the whole, before they made a finall departure.

Arm'd with such and the like bloody resolutions, about 150. or 200. Papists very privately in small companies, rode downe to *Oxford*, and tooke up their lodging in severall places thereabouts, so that no man had the least thought of harme or suspition of them. Till within few dayes after they had contrived their plot (which as most thinke, was to blow up the City with Gun-powder) and for all things in readinesse to execute it; on Sunday the 9. of *Jan.* last, they began to gather together, riding in, and about, and through the City, by six or seven in a Troope, all that day and the next; which bred great terrour and feares, in the hearts of the people thereabouts.

This proceeded two dayes, and then these poore deluded, but mischievous minded wretches, thinking their Stratagem so neere to be acted, as good as done already, began to give daring and presumptuous words to the inhabitants, saying, they car'd not a rush for the best in *England*, let what would happen, they should doe well enough, they made no question.

Hereupon, and not without cause, some of the Major part of the City, having suspition of some plot layd against their lives, took counsell together, and concluded to make a narrow search in every house, for the prevention of such sudden dangers, that otherwise might unavoidably insue.

This was immediately put in action, and on Thursday last being the 13. of this present *January*, 1641. The Officers entring into an Inne, at the signe of the Star neere *Carfax*; there in an out-house they found 22. Barrells of Gun-powder, with two Barrells of shot and Bullets, and in another place hard by, they likewise found great store of Warlike Munition, as Shovels, Spades, Pick-axes, and the like, with compleat Armes for 150. men.

The joyfull newes of this happy deliverance, was quickly divulged in every part of the City. The domineering Papists were soone dissipated and fled, the In-keeper onely

is left to answer for the housing it, when he comes to be examined before authority and justice, which being done, without his knowledge or privy; tis thought he will cleare himselfe very well: In the interim, let all true Protestants for them, and they for themselves, never cease to extoll the mercy and loving kindnesse of God, their and our gracious preserver, that so nefarious a designe had no worse an event.

*Very good Newes from IRELAND.*

**I***reland*, long complaining and groaning under the yoke of Reblion, by the meanes of those blood-thirsty and tyrannous Papists, who most unhumanely have murdered and massacred the Protestants of that Kingdome, without mercy or pittie, using all the tortours that they could invent, to torment in their death, til such time as their blood doth cry both to God and man for revenge, their cryes and moanes having possesst with pittie, the hearts of the Lords and Commons, now assembled in this Honourable Court of Parliament: who out of their goodnesse and pittie, have lately sent to relieve them, both men, money, and munition, to the number of 10000. men, which are already arived in that Kingdome, to the great comfort of those poore distressed Protestants, who since hath given the Rebels a great overthrow, neare unto the City of *Dublin*, January the 11. 1641.

The Protestants of *Ireland*, being much comforted at the receiving of the fifty thousand pounds which were sent from *England*, and that the English Volunteers, to the number of ten thousand, were arived in that Kingdome, to the ayd of the distressed Protestant; and the resistance of those bloody-minded and mercilesse Rebels. The sudden newes thereof, did cause a general encouragement throughout the Protestant Army, in so much that it was rumored up and downe amongst the Rebels, how the English with great



great force were coming to surprize them, & that they were not passing thirty miles from *Dublin*, to the number of forty thousand horse and foot, so that many of the Rebels, being not altogether so manfull, as they had formerly beene merciesse, and that all their wicked proceedings were to be wrapt up in such a short conclusion, caused a great murmuring to be amongst them, in so much that many of them seem'd to be posselt with cowardly feare: which the Lord *More*, and others of the English Commanders, having notice thereof, made themselves ready for battell, but yet considering that policy in wars prov'd many times as good as the strength of men, they sent many Drums and Trumpeters privately out of the City, to this intent, that they should get themselves beyond the Rebels so neere as they could, not to be discovered presently, and when the word should be given them, to beat up their Drums, and sound their Trumpets, in the most couragious manner they could, which they did, and having divided themselves on each side of Rebels, the word was given them: whereupon the Drums did beat, and the Trumpets sounded, which sudden and unexpected noyse on each side them, put the Rebels into a great fright, in so much as that they thought the forty thousand English as they supposed, had beene come indeed. Which caused a great distraction to be amongst the Rebels, in so much they knew not which way to turne themselves, nor what way to goe, to scape the supposed Army, where the Drums and Trumpets sounded, so that they were all quite growne out of order, and every one ready to knocke another downe with the stocks of their muskets, because they could not keep their ranks. Whereupon the Protestants issued out of the City of *Dublin*, and slew them in abundant manner, untill such times as they had slaine and dispers'd the greatest part of those Rebels, many of them fell upon their knees, shewing some signes of subjection to the Protestants: who durst not spare them, being they were  
such

such as were not to be trusted; some of the chiefeſt the  
have taken prisoners, yet not very many, for feare the  
should be reſiſted by the reſt of the Rebels, which at the  
firſt were ten to one. It is unknowne as yet for certaine  
how many of the Rebels were ſlaine in that ſkirmiſh, but a  
neere as can be gueſt, about the number of ſeven thouſand.  
Many of thoſe that ſcap'd away for the ſafegard of their  
lives, were glad to leave their armes behind them, by the  
reaſon that they durſt not truſt their legs, with ſo great  
charge at that preſent, a fit reward for ſuch wild horſes.  
Thoſe that would not be ruled, nor kept in by their Lord and  
Maſter, muſt now be tamed by the ſound of Drums and  
Trumpets, O Ireland Ireland, why doſt thou perſecute the Ch  
dren of God? Is it not too hard for thee to kick againſt the prick  
fall upon thy face and cry unto thy Maker, that he may cauſe  
ſcales to fall away from thine eyes, then mayſt thou ſee the love  
that God beares unto his people: which may wiſh Iſrael  
ſay, had not the Lord bene on our ſide, when men roſe  
up in armes againſt us, we had bene deſtroyed.

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FINIS.